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ARTICLE XIII.

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THE GREEK STAMPS

ON THE

HANDLES OF RHODIAN AMPHORÆ,  
FOUND IN CYPRUS, AND NOW IN THE METROPOLITAN  
MUSEUM OF NEW YORK.

BY PROF. ISAAC H. HALL,  
OF NEW YORK CITY.

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Presented to the Society May 6th, 1885.

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NEAR an ancient artificial hill called Bamboula,\* just outside of Larnaka, in Cyprus, close to the ancient eastern port of Citium, used to be found a number of handles of Rhodian amphoræ, with Greek stamps. Gen. di Cesnola found elsewhere in Cyprus some thirty complete amphoræ of the sort, all with stamps on the handles; besides a number of handles that were broken off. It is well known that such amphoræ, from Rhodes, Cnidus, and a few other places, were chiefly used as packing cases; and they are often called "Rhodian casks," as those from Cnidus are called "Cnidian casks." The height of these Rhodian amphoræ is about 2 feet 6 to 8 inches, and the largest diameter from a foot to fifteen inches. They come nearly to a point at the base; but instead of a point they end in a stout cylinder, an inch or an inch and a half in diameter. The handles are about ten inches high, and extend the whole length of the neck. The mouth is about five inches in diameter.

In their present state, these amphoræ could not hold water; as it trickles through, after the manner of the unglazed coolers of hot climates. They might hold oil, or wine, if coated on the inside with pitch. But remains of figs and other fruit have been found in them, and sometimes salt.

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\* The hill has recently been leveled to fill up a marsh, for sanitary purposes.

The stamps on the handles vary somewhat in their purport. Sometimes they have the name of the eponym, the name of the (Doric) month, the name of the manufacturer or owner, and an emblem; but they vary so much in the character of their legends that each amphora or handle must be taken by itself. The stamps on the New York objects are either circular or rectangular, but others occur of oval shape. As the general subject has been treated of in various works, I forbear lengthy comment, and give merely the inscriptions, with other special particulars. Where the stamps are impressed so that both can be read as right side up in one position, it is possible to speak of one handle as "right" and the other as "left;" but more frequently, when one is right side up to the spectator, the other is wrong side up. The handles bend above, at an angle either right or slightly acute; and on the top, at each side of the neck, are the stamps.

These stamps are sometimes quite easy to read, but generally somewhat difficult. The salmon-colored pottery of which they are made breaks with a conchoidal or flint-like fracture; so that where a line or letter has been broken off (they are always in relief), its trace is generally left in the surface. The following are the stamps; designating the amphoræ by their present numbers in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

No. 5055. Rectangular stamps. Raised straight lines between the lines of characters. Right hand stamp,  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΑΝΔΡΟΒΟΥ | ΛΟΥ· ΕΠΙ ΘΕ | ΠΣΑΝΔΡΟΥ

Name of maker or owner, and eponym.

Left hand: stamp of same dimensions. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 2 lines. At end of second line is a little square with diagonals.

ΥΑΚΙΝ | ΘΙΟΥ Name of Doric month.

All the nouns are in the genitive; that of the eponym, after *ἐπί*.

No. 5047. Rectangular stamps; no proper right or left.

a. Stamp  $1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΧΡΥ | ΣΑΟΝΟΣ ΥΑΚ | ΙΝΘΙΟΥ Eponym, and name of Doric month. Here, as in most cases, the Θ has a dot for the cross-bar. One Α has a straight cross-bar; the other, one of V-form. Where not otherwise indicated, the spaces between the words are of my own making. Where dots are printed between the words, they are present on the stamp.

b. Stamp  $1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Symbol that is probably the prow of a ship. Letters,  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in 2 lines.

ΔΙΑ ΔΙΟΤΡΕΦ | ΟΥΣ Maker's or exporter's name, in genitive after *δία*.

No. 5050. Rectangular stamps; no right or left.

a. Stamp  $1\frac{1}{16} \times \frac{1}{16}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 2 lines, faint and difficult.

ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΑΡΧΟΥ | ΠΕΔΑΓΓΕΙΤΝΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

b. Stamp  $1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in 1 line; thick and strong.

ΔΗΜΑΡ[ΧΟΥ] Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5045. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 2 lines.

ΜΕΝΕΣΘΕΩΝΣ | ΣΜΙΝΘΙΟΥ Name of maker, and of Doric month.

Left:  $1\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{9}{16}$  inch. One line of letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

ΕΠΙ ΑΔΜΑΙΝΕΤΟΥ Eponym.

In top right-hand corner, a symbol that was probably a bull's head; but it may have been a bird.

No. 5046. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

a.  $1\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 1 line. Below, an anchor for symbol.

ΔΡΑΚΟΝΤΙΔΑ Owner's or maker's name.

b.  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 2 lines.

At the top on the right, the clay was disturbed after stamping, obscuring part of the line. Also, the stamp was either moved or applied twice, making other portions difficult. In the name of the month the N is reversed.

[ΕΠΙ] ΑΡΧΕΜ | ΗΡΟΤΟΥ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

No. 5051. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; confused and obscured; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΕΛΑΧΕ | ΙΝΟΥ ΗΥΝ | ΤΟΜΑ

Eponym, with name of Doric month. In line 2 the A is upside down, and line 3 is turned *boustrophedon*.

Left:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inch. Letters, thick,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in 1 line.

ΑΡΤΙΜΑ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5041. Circular stamps. No right or left.

a.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch outer diameter. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in circle. In the centre, the conventional symbolic rose.

ΙΠΠΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ Owner's or maker's name.

b.  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch outer diameter. Letters, in circle;  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high. Conventional rose in the centre.

ΕΠΙ ΞΕΝΟΦΑΝΤΟΥ ΑΡΤΑΜΙΤΙΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric month.

No. 5060. Circular stamps, each  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in outer diameter. No right or left. Inside of each, the conventional rose. Letters, in circles;  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

a. ΙΠΠΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ Owner's or maker's name.

b. ΕΠΙ ΘΕΑΙΔΗΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with Doric month.

No. 5058. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{16}$  inch. Emblem, a long spit or obelus, with an object at the point like an uncial or manuscript *omega*, probably a double hook (flesh-hook or grapple?), and a lapidary  $\Sigma$  at the handle. Below, 1 line of letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high, confused by applying the stamp more than once.

$\Delta$ ΠΑΚΟΝΤΙΔΑ Owner's or maker's name.

*b.*  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Three lines of letters; letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high. Of last line, only the tops of the letters are impressed.

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤ | ΠΑΧΟΥ | ΣΜΙΝΘΙΟΥ

Eponym, with Doric month. In line 2, the P and A are transposed, as here copied.

No. 5052. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  inch. Letters in two lines;  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch high.

ΕΠΙ ΑΙΣΧΙΝΑ | ΑΡΤΑΜΙΤΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

*b.*  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{7}{8}$  inch. One line of letters; above, a thyrsus for the symbol.

ΣΤΑΣΙΚΛΕΥΣ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5061. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inch. Letters in 2 lines,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high. At end of line 2, emblem, probably a pomegranate and its twig.

ΠΟΛΥΑΡΑ | ΤΟΥ Owner's or maker's name.

*b.*  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Three lines; letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high. Part of line 1 obliterated.

ΕΠΙ . . . ΔΑΥ | ΕΡΟΤΙΔΑΣ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, probably with patronymic, and name of Doric month.

No. 5057. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters in 3 lines;  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; a little confused by stamping more than once.

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤΑ | ΝΟΥ | ΤΑΚΙΝΘΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

*b.*  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inch. Letters in 1 line;  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high. Below, emblem of a thyrsus.

ΕΥΚΛΕΙΤΟΥ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5039. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{8}$  inch. Letters in 3 lines;  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

ΕΠΙ ΤΙΜΑ | ΓΟΡΑ | ΔΑΛΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

*b.*  $1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters in 2 lines;  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high. Below, a symbol, probably the prow of a ship.

ΝΟΜΑΡΧ | ΟΥ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5063. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a.*  $1\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{9}{16}$  inch. Letters, 1 line;  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high. Below, emblem of thyrsus; and bunch of grapes, with leaves.

ΜΙΔΑ Owner's or maker's name.

*b.*  $1\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 2 lines. Emblem

difficult to make out, but most like a thick amphora pierced by a feathered arrow.

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤΟ | ΓΕΝΕΥ Εponym. As the whole stamp is not impressed, it would seem that a third line contained the name of the month.

No. 5043. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 3 lines, the last very poorly impressed.

ΕΠΙ ΕΡΜΟΥΣ | ΑΛΕΞΙΔΑ | ΑΓΓΙΑΝΙΟΥ

Eponym, with patronymic, and name of Doric month.

Left: same stamp as No. 5058, *a*.

No. 5065. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; 2 lines, emblem of a trident.

ΗΦΑΙΣΤΙ | ΩΝΟΣ Owner's or maker's name.

Left:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{16}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 4 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΑΝΘΩΙΩ | ΝΕΥΣ | ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΥ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric (intercalary) month.

No. 5044. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΔΑΜΑΙ | ΝΕΜΟΥ | ΑΓΓΙΑΝΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

Left:  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch high; one line. Above, emblem of thyrsus.

ΙΜΑ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5053. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a*. Same stamp as No. 5063, *a*.

*b*.  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤΟ | ΓΕΝΕΥΣ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric month.

No. 5067. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a*.  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΣΩΣΙ | ΚΑΕΥΣ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month.

*b*.  $1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 1 line. Below, a thyrsus for emblem.

ΣΤΑΣΙΟΙΚΟΥ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5054. Rectangular stamps. No right or left.

*a*. Same as No. 5063, *a*.

*b*.  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣ | ΤΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ | ΑΡΤΑΜΙΤΙΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric month.

No. 5066. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in one line. At end, a wreath, apparently of olive.

ΑΜΥΝΤΑ Owner's or maker's name.

Left:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΞΕΝΟΦ | ΩΝΤΟC | ΤΑΚΙΝΘΙΟΥ

Eponym, and name of Doric month. The *omega* and *sigma* in line 2 are of uncial form.

No. 5050. Circular stamps, poorly impressed, and circumference not on the clay. Conventional rose in centre of each. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

a. ΕΠΙ ΑΜΦΙΛΟΧΟΥ (but instead of ΑΟ it is almost as easy to read ΑΡ). Eponym. Part of the stamp is illegible.

b. Only Δ\*ΜΑΡ . . . is visible, and that not certain.

No. 5062. Rectangular stamps.

Right:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{7}{8}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 3 lines, partly illegible.

ΕΠΙ . . . . Α | ΘΙ . . . ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΥ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric (intercalary) month.

Left:  $1\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in one line. Also, emblem, probably a ship's prow.

ΚΑΛΛΙΟΝΟΣ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5042. Circular stamps, each  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter; with conventional rose in the centre. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

a. ΕΠΙ ΤΙΜΑΣΑΓΟΡΑ ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with Doric month.

b. ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΟΚΡΑΤΕΤΣ

Also an eponym, in form.

Not numbered, 1. Circular stamps; one all gone except some unintelligible traces. The other too faint to do more with than read the name in the circle (whose diameter cannot be determined).

ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΟΚΡΑΤΕΥ

(Nothing but a point or boss in the centre.)

Eponym. The *epsilon* has the uncial form.

Not numbered, 2. Circular stamps, each  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter, and with conventional rose in centre. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

a. ΑΝΘΘΞΙΠΠΗΔΑ Owner's or maker's name.

b. ΕΠΙ ΑΕΟΝΤΙΔΑ ΔΑΜΟΚΑ

Eponym, with perhaps the father's name added.

No. 5049. Rectangular stamps, each  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch.

Right: Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 2 lines. Upper line only partly impressed; and ends of the lines obscure.

ΑΓΡΙΑΝΙΟΥ | ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΟΔΑΜ[Α]

Eponym, with name of Doric month preceding.

Left: ΦΙΛΑΙΝΙΟΥ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5048. Circular stamps, almost like those of No. 5050.

a. Rose in centre; letters illegible.

b. ΕΠΙ ΑΜΦΙΛΟΧΟΥ Eponym. The name of the month was probably there, but is now illegible. Letters of the uncial type.

No. 5059. Rectangular stamps.

Left:  $1\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 3 lines. Stamp impressed more than once, making the reading difficult.

ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑ | ΤΕΥΣ | ΤΑΚΙΝΘΙΟΣ (or perhaps the last letter is Υ, but Σ is the apparent reading in the present confusion).

Eponym, with name of Doric month; and the latter in the nominative, if the apparent reading is correct.

Right:  $1\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Letters,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high; in one line; with emblem, a bunch of grapes (or ear of grain?).

ΣΤΑΥΤΟΣ Owner's or maker's name.

No. 5040. Rectangular stamps, each  $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{5}{8}$  inch.

Right: Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in one line; beginning destroyed by disturbance of the clay before baking. Emblem, a dolphin and a pomegranate.

[ΗΡ]ΗΣΙΠΠΙΟΣ Owner's or maker's name, in the nominative.

Left: Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in 3 lines.

ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΑΣΑ | ΓΟΡΑ | ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

Eponym, with name of Doric month.

Those that follow are upon broken-off handles.

1. Circular,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter. Rose in centre. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

ΕΠΙ ΞΕΝΟΦΑΝΤΟΥ ΣΜΙΝΘΙΟΥ

Eponym, and Doric month.

On the side of the handle is a small square stamp with the letter Β,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch high, made with straight lines and angles, instead of curves.

2. Rectangular,  $1\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Symbol at one end, a double cornucopia, or else the double pileus of the Dioscuri. Below, a bipennis. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high; in one line.

ΜΗΝΟΘΕΜΙΟΣ Owner's or maker's name.

3. Rectangular,  $2 \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch. Symbol like the fluke of a modern anchor. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch high; in 2 lines.

ΗΡΑΚΛΕ | ΩΝΟΣ Owner's or maker's name.

The *omega* is of the uncial form, but upside down..

4. Circular,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter, with conventional rose within. Letters,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch high.

ΔΑΜΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ Owner's or maker's name.

5. Circular,  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter; only a point or boss in centre. Uncial characters. Probably the same stamp as the first of the non-numbered amphoræ preceding.

ΕΠΙ ΦΙΛΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ

Eponym.

The style of the letters on the stamps is not modern, nor extremely ancient. More commonly the ends of the strokes have cross-pieces, like our ordinary capitals. Uncial and lapidary forms occur together; frequently on the same stamp. One in-



stance above has a specimen of *boustrophedon*; but that is no indication of antiquity when on a stamp. The letters are generally of elegant form. In the case of the *alpha*, the straight and the V-shaped cross-bar occur in the same stamp.

The Doric genitive in *-α* appears frequent; and the termination in *-εϋς* appears also as a genitive.

A majority of the twelve (or thirteen) Doric month-names appear on these stamps. The same maker's or owner's name, and the same stamp, appear in conjunction with different eponyms, on different amphoræ. As to age, I can scarcely conjecture; but it would seem that most of the amphoræ were neighbors, both in age and in place of manufacture.